

Sunday, December 21, 2003

Civil affairs officer teaches health care management workshop

Story and photo by Spc. Ryan Smith, 372nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq -- A physicians' leadership workshop was held for local Iraqi doctors and other health care professionals at the Iraqi Forum in Baghdad Dec. 3 through 11.

The workshop was led by Capt. Caroline Pogge, a civil affairs officer with the 411th Civil Affairs Battalion, an Army Reserve unit from Danbury, Conn., and part of Task Force 1st Armored Division.

Twenty-eight students attended the workshop, including doctors, pharmacists and representatives from the Iraqi Ministry of Health.

The intent of the workshop was to give Iraqi physicians a basic course in health care management—a topic that has rarely been emphasized in the country's health care education, according to Pogge, a reservist who works as a civilian as a hospital administrator in Sayre, Penn.

Few of the Iraq's physicians—though they are adept at healing people—have much experience or knowledge about efficient management techniques, she said.

"We've found that, in many cases, physicians are in charge of the clinics or hospitals, but they have no basic management skills," Pogge said.

To counter this, civil affairs soldiers and Army doctors have worked with local physicians in communities around Baghdad.

Pogge has previously met with several of the doctors who attended the workshop. Many are from clinics and hospitals in east Baghdad, where the 411th works in the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment's area of operations. She and Lt. Col. Kelly Murray, regimental surgeon, 2nd ACR, have assisted the doctors and clinics in the area with many of their problems and concerns.

The course is based on one that Pogge took at the University of Kentucky as part of her training in the United States. The workshop emphasizes group work, case studies, and hands-on learning.

The eight-day crash course in health care management is broken into several modules, including leadership, decision making, finance, human resources, resource allocation, and project management, she said.

Working on problems in groups is one of the most important parts of the course. "Management doesn't have to be autocratic," Pogge said. "It's often helpful to consult your staff and bring them into the process."

Though, in her experiences as a student and hospital administrator, Pogge has taught a handful of classes, she has never taken on a workshop quite like



Capt. Caroline Pogge, a civil affairs officer with the 411th Civil Affairs Battalion, explains an assignment to students at a physicians' leadership workshop at the Iraqi Forum in Baghdad.

this. She had a stroke of luck, however, when she began her research for the course.

She contacted her graduate program at the University of Kentucky and found that a workshop had already been developed, and handouts and slides were already prepared. The course she found was created by the U.S. Agency for International Development and the American International Health Alliance for use in former Soviet republics after the fall of communism there.

Ideally, Pogge said, this course would be used as a pilot for the Ministry of Health to use in the future with more physicians from throughout Baghdad and the rest of Iraq.

She has received good feedback from the workshop's students. Regardless of the language barrier or any cultural issues, the physicians have found the class helpful, she said. They asked questions and provided suggestions, and became comfortable with the group process.

"I've worked with many of the health care professionals here," Pogge said. "As far as the administrative aspect goes, I've seen a gap in what they had to offer. It's exciting to go home with a sense of accomplishment by helping the medical community get on track—to have a smoother transition."

She added, "It's all part of the civil affairs philosophy. We bring the skills from our civilian job to the conflict."

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News...

Alleged al-Qaida Tape Warns Americans

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) - A voice purported to be Al-Qaida's second-in-command warns in an audiotape that the terror group will target Americans "in their homeland" and will drive the U.S. military from bases in the Middle East. Excerpts of the 10-minute tape were broadcast Friday by satellite television channel Al-Jazeera. It said the recording was made by Ayman al-Zawahri, Osama bin Laden's deputy.

Bush Urges Other Nations to Follow Libya

WASHINGTON (AP) - After winning concessions from Libya, President Bush urged other nations to recognize that the pursuit of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons brings "isolation and otherwise unwelcome consequences."

Bush's remarks alluded to the Iraq war that toppled Saddam Hussein over his alleged possession of weapons of mass destruction and were apparently aimed at North Korea and Iran, still suspected of seeking and developing banned weapons.

U.S. Plans Changes in Afghan Strategy

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) - The new U.S. commander in Afghanistan said he will use his forces to open up the lawless south and east to development aid, in a tactical switch to beat a stubborn insurgency threatening next year's elections. Lt. Gen. David W. Barno said his troops will set up long-term bases in provinces plagued by Taliban attacks.

Turkish suspect: al-Qaida behind attacks

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) - A man charged with helping organize last month's suicide bombings in Istanbul has confessed that al-Qaida gave militants \$150,000 to carry out the attacks. Adnan Ersoz's confession, which had been leaked by police sources, would be the first time a suspect in the attacks has admitted al-Qaida financed the bombings that killed 62 people.

Health and fitness???

Health Club Ends Nude Swimming Tradition

MILWAUKEE (AP) -- The Milwaukee Athletic Club is breaking with its 121-year-old tradition and requiring men to wear suits when they swim - and some longtime swimmers aren't happy about it.

Bob Schmidt, 56, figures he has been swimming nude at the downtown club since he was 6, and he greatly enjoys not having to tote a swimsuit with him.

"This is not over yet," Schmidt said. "What would happen if I just show up for a swim one day without a suit?"

Club president Bob Bellin said he can understand why the ban on nude swimming, starting Jan. 2, is a little controversial.

"Change is difficult," he said. "Some of our older members really enjoy this benefit. But we felt that, in an effort to appeal to younger members, we had to change with the times."

In a letter this month to club members, Bellin said a supply of swimsuits has been purchased and will be available at the sign-in desk.

"I realize that this ends a long-standing tradition at The Club," Bellin wrote. "There are a number of reasons for moving in this direction, but one of the most important was the negative reaction to 'naked' swim from many prospective members. As we struggle to attract new members, this seemed to be a modest compromise to modernize our image."

The club has maintained two pools: one for women and children, requiring suits, and the other for men only to swim laps, in the nude if they wished.

Al Horn, 78, has been swimming nude there each day for decades.

"It's a burden to carry a suit," he said, but he will abide by the ban.

Bellin ended his letter with an invitation:

"We invite you to mourn the passing of the 'suitless swim' on New Year's Day and have one last skinny dip."

Chaplain's thought for the day...

"The Importance of Routine"

A railroad yardmaster called the telephone company office daily at exactly 11:45 to verify the time. After years of this ritual the operator asked the yardmaster, "Why do you call each day at exactly the same time?" His reply, "I take my responsibilities very seriously, I call to be certain I blow the 12:00 whistle exactly at 12:00!" The operator replied, "How coincidental, I set my clock everyday by your 12:00 whistle!!"

They didn't know it, but they were in fact synchronizing their watches off each other.

We are a team, keeping each other together. We just don't realize it all the time.

Safety Message...

BACK TO BASICS II

Safety in the tactical environment depends upon compliance with established standards.

However, due to the fluid conditions in the tactical environment, safe mission accomplishment relies heavily on the complete integration of risk management into both the planning and the execution phases.

Risk management assists commanders in anticipating and controlling hazards in the planning phase and in dealing with unexpected hazards as they arise in the execution phase.

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myafn.net TV SCHEDULES: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2003				As of: Saturday, December 20, 2003 2:30:24 AM		
Start Time	SPORTS	ATLANTIC	SPECTRUM	PACIFIC	NEWS	Start Time
00:00			THE DIVISION : - MOTHER'S DAY	CORAL RIDGE HOUR : - SCROOGE AND MARLEY	FOX NEWS LIVE	00:00
00:30	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - ACC: WAKE FOREST @ NORTH CAROLINA (JIP)					00:30
01:00		NFL - KANSAS CITY CHIEFS @ MINNESOTA VIKINGS	A SEASON FOR MIRACLES	SING WE NOW OF CHRISTMAS	FOX NEWS LIVE	01:00
01:30				ONE SILENT NIGHT		01:30
02:00				HEADLINE NEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	02:00
02:30	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - PAC-10: MICHIGAN STATE @ UCLA			A RUGRATS KWANZAA	MCLAUGHLIN GROUP	02:30
03:00			THE PRINCE OF PEACE	WISHBONE : - DIGGING UP THE PAST	CAPITAL GANG	03:00
03:30			WE NEED A LITTLE CHRISTMAS	ARMY NEWSWATCH		03:30
04:00		ESPNEWS	CORAL RIDGE HOUR - WHAT IF JESUS HAD NEVER BEEN BORN	NFL PRIMETIME	WASHINGTON WEEK IN REVIEW	04:00
04:30	ESPNEWS	LIVE IN HOLLYWOOD		NFL - NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS @ NY JETS	HEADLINE NEWS	04:30
05:00	GOLF - WENDY'S THREE TOUR CHALLENGE: THIRD ROUND		THE SIMPSONS : - HOMER BADMAN		PEOPLE IN THE NEWS	05:00
05:30		THE ENTERTAINERS	MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE			05:30
06:00			EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND : - SEPARATION		CNN SATURDAY NIGHT	06:00
06:30		AMERICAN ATHLETE	THE KING OF QUEENS : - CLASS STRUGGLE			06:30
07:00	COLLEGE FOOTBALL - 2003 NCAA DIVISION III FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP: ST. JOHN'S (MN) VS MOUNT UNION	HEADLINE NEWS	AMERICAN DREAMS : - THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS		DATELINE INTERNATIONAL	07:00
07:30		HOOR OF POWER - FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST		MOTORWEEK		07:30
08:00		CORAL RIDGE HOUR : - SCROOGE AND MARLEY	MAGNUM P.I. : - HOME FROM THE SEA	CALL ME CLAUS	LARRY KING LIVE	08:00
09:00		SING WE NOW OF CHRISTMAS	FAMILY TIES : - A WORD TO THE WISE (PT. 1)		AT LARGE WITH GERALDO RIVERA	09:00
09:30		ONE SILENT NIGHT	THE COSBY SHOW : - NO WAY BABY	EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES		09:30
10:00	ESPNEWS	WISHBONE : - DIGGING UP THE PAST	CHIPS : - AWEIGH WE GO	WWE SMACKDOWN!	BELTWAY BOYS	10:00
10:30	ESPNEWS	CLIFFORD THE BIG RED DOG : - THE KIBBLE CROOK/ SCREAMING FOR ICE-CREAM			FOX NEWS WATCH	10:30
11:00	COLLEGE BASKETBALL - LAS VEGAS SHOWDOWN - MVC: ALABAMA VS OREGON	CALL ME CLAUS	THE PRINCE OF PEACE	ANDROMEDA : - POINT OF THE SPEAR	HEADLINE NEWS	11:00
11:30			WE NEED A LITTLE CHRISTMAS		AMERICA'S BLACK FORUM	11:30
12:00			CORAL RIDGE HOUR - WHAT IF JESUS HAD NEVER BEEN BORN	HEADLINE NEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	12:00
12:30		A RUGRATS KWANZAA		ESPNEWS	NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS	12:30
13:00	SPORTSCENTER	MOTORWEEK	THE SIMPSONS : - HOMER BADMAN	SMALLVILLE : - SKINWALKER	BIG STORY WEEKEND EDITION	13:00
13:30		EBERT & ROEPER AT THE MOVIES	MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE			13:30
14:00	NHL - DALLAS STARS @ TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING	HEADLINE NEWS	EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND : - SEPARATION	THE FAMILY MAN	CNN PRESENTS	14:00
14:30		ARMY NEWSWATCH	THE KING OF QUEENS : - CLASS STRUGGLE			14:30
15:00		COLLEGE BASKETBALL - LAS VEGAS SHOWDOWN: MVC: AUBURN @ UNLV	AMERICAN DREAMS : - THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS		FOX & FRIENDS	15:00
16:00			MAGNUM P.I. : - HOME FROM THE SEA		FOX & FRIENDS	16:00
16:15				HEADLINE NEWS		16:15
16:30	SPORTSCENTER			SEINFELD : - THE VIRGIN		16:30
17:00		SPORTSCENTER	FAMILY TIES : - A WORD TO THE WISE (PT. 1)	MEET THE PRESS	CBS NEWS SUNDAY MORNING	17:00
17:30	NFL LIVE		THE COSBY SHOW : - NO WAY BABY			17:30
18:00	THE SPORTS REPORTERS	WWE SMACKDOWN!	CHIPS : - AWEIGH WE GO	AMERICA'S BLACK FORUM		18:00
18:30	SPORTSCENTER			ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT	FACE THE NATION	18:30
19:00	NFL COUNTDOWN	ANDROMEDA : - POINT OF THE SPEAR	THE PRINCE OF PEACE		CNN SPECIAL:	19:00
19:30			WE NEED A LITTLE CHRISTMAS	ESPNEWS	NAVY/MARINE CORPS NEWS	19:30
20:00		THE NFL TODAY	CORAL RIDGE HOUR - WHAT IF JESUS HAD NEVER BEEN BORN	FOX NFL SUNDAY	LATE EDITION W/ WOLF BLITZER	20:00
21:00	NFL - MIAMI DOLPHINS @ BUFFALO BILLS	NFL - CINCINNATI BENGALS @ ST. LOUIS RAMS	THE SIMPSONS : - HOMER BADMAN	NFL - NY GIANTS @ DALLAS COWBOYS		21:00
21:30			MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE			21:30
22:00			EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND : - SEPARATION		FOX NEWS LIVE	22:00
22:30			THE KING OF QUEENS : - CLASS STRUGGLE			22:30
23:00			AMERICAN DREAMS : - THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS		FOX NEWS LIVE	23:00

The Old Ironsides Report

The back page...

December 21, 2003

This day in history... December 21, 1958

DE GAULLE ELECTED:

Three months after a new French constitution was approved, Charles de Gaulle is elected the first president of the Fifth Republic by a sweeping majority of French voters. The previous June, France's World War II hero was called out of retirement to lead the country when a military and civilian revolt in Algeria threatened France's stability. A veteran of World War I, de Gaulle unsuccessfully petitioned his country to modernize its armed forces in the years before the outbreak of World War II.

After French Premier Henri Petain signed an armistice with Nazi Germany in June 1940, de Gaulle fled to London, where he organized the Free French forces and rallied French colonies to the Allied cause. His forces fought successfully in North Africa, and in June 1944 he was named head of the French government in exile.

On August 26, following the Allied invasion of France, de Gaulle entered Paris in triumph. In November, he was unanimously elected provisional president of France. He resigned two years later, however, claiming he lacked sufficient governing power. In 1947, he formed a new political party that had only moderate electoral success, and in 1953 he left politics.

In 1958, however, a revolt by French colonists in Algeria led to a severe political crisis in France, and de Gaulle agreed to head a new emergency government. Considered the only leader of sufficient strength and stature to deal with the perilous situation, he was made the virtual dictator of France, with power to rule by decree for six months. A new constitution of his design was approved in a national referendum in September, and on December 21 he was elected president of the Fifth Republic.

During the next decade, President de Gaulle granted independence to Algeria and attempted to restore France to its former international stature by withdrawing from the U.S.-dominated NATO alliance and promoting the development of French atomic weapons.

Student demonstrations and workers' strikes in 1968 eroded his popular support, and in 1969 his proposals for constitutional reform were defeated in a national vote.

On April 28, 1969, Charles de Gaulle, at 79 years old, retired permanently. He died the following year.

OIF reenlistment bonuses in effect

Task Force 1st Armored Division soldiers eligible to reenlist may want to consider re-upping now and take advantage of bonus multipliers that can mean some extra cash in their pockets.

All military occupational specialties are eligible. Soldiers must reenlist to complete their current deployment and for 12 months stabilization in their current unit. The minimum reenlist time is three years.

Unlike earlier bonuses, the current program is based upon the soldier's base pay, years of service, and length of the re-enlistment.

This formula means some soldiers will get slightly less than \$5,000, but most soldiers will receive more.

For example, a sergeant with more than six years of service who re-enlists for six years will get about \$6,111. A staff sergeant re-upping for the same six years will get a bonus of about \$6,612, and a specialist re-enlisting for four years, \$6,661.

For more information, contact your unit career counselors:

- Command Career Counselor: SGM James Jaranowski, Baghdad International Airport, Soldier Support Center, DVNT 551-9405
- Division Retention Operations NCO: MSG Gary Schoolfield BIAP, Soldier Support Center, DVNT 551-9405
- 1st Brigade: SFC Burke, Martyrs' Monument, DVNT 550-7027
- 2nd Brigade: SSG Gibson, Saddam's Presidential Palace, DVNT 551-2010
- 4th Brigade: MSG Wolfe, BIAP, DVNT 551-6620
- Division Artillery: SFC Hilton, BIAP, DVNT 551-7030
- Division Engineer: MSG Collier BIAP DVNT 551-6131
- Division Support Command: SFC Casnave, BIAP, Soldier Support Center, DVNT 551-9405
- Division Troops: SFC Nagle, BIAP, Soldier Support Center, DVNT 551-9405

